

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 02744 041923Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 041420Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7532
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2744

STADIS////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECON, XF
SUBJECT: VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST OF OMB DIRECTOR AND PRESIDENT'S
ECONOMIC ADVISER

REF: STATE 104774

1. WE WARMLY WELCOME SUBJECT VISIT. GIVEN VERY TIGHT HOTEL SITUATION IN DAMASCUS, WE WILL NEED CONFIRMATION OF ITINERARY AND NAMES ALL MEMBERS OF PARTY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN HOTEL SPACE. AMBASSADOR AND MRS. MURPHY WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE MEESRS. LYNN AND GREENSPAN STAY AT RESIDENCE. EMBASSY CONTROL OFFICER IS FSO RODERICK M. WRIGHT.

2. AS TO PROGRAM AND IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE USABLE TIME DURING VISIT, STRONGLY RECOMMEND DELEGATION CHARTER EXECUTIVE JET AIRCRAFT FROM ARAB WINGS IN AMMAN TO FLY TO DAMASCUS RATHER THAN MAKING THREE TO FOUR HOUR SURFACE TRIP ON HOT, CROWDED ROAD. POSSIBLE USE OF RECENTLY INAUGURATED AMMAN-DAMASCUS COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS SHOULD ALSO BE CHECKED.

3. REALIZING PARTY'S TRIP WILL BE PHYSICALLY EXHAUSTING AND THAT IT TAKING PLACE IN HOT EARLY SUMMER SEASON, PROPOSE FOLLOW-
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PAGE 02 DAMASC 02744 041923Z

ING PROGRAM:

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9:

ARRIVE FROM AMMAN NLT 1800. PAY BRIEF CALL ON
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MOHAMMAD HAYDAR.
ATTEND STAG DINNER AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE WITH MINISTER
OF ECONOMY AND FOREIGN TRADE, DR. MOHAMMAD AL-IMADI (PH.D,
NYU), AND DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING, ISSAM HILOU, WHO ARE
SYRIAN OFFICIALS MOST DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN U.S. FOREIGN
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10:

AMBASSADOR ALREADY COMMITTED TO EARLY MORNING DEPARTURE
FOR U.S. FOR CONSULTATION AND HOME LEAVE. SUGGEST FOLLOW-
UP MEETINGS IF DESIRED BY PARTY WITH MISSION PERSONNEL AND
SHORT VISIT TO OLD DAMASCUS MARKET BEFORE NOON DEPARTURE FOR
AIRPORT. NOTE: WITH DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME NOW IN EFFECT,
RB-357 TO CAIRO DEPARTS AT 1300 VICE 1200.

4. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. CONFIRM ITINERARY AND NAMES OF ALL VISITORS AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE SO WE MAY MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS, SEND NOTE TO
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND BEGIN TO LINE UP APPOINTMENTS.

B. APPROVE SUGGESTED PROGRAM OR ADVISE CHANGES
DESIRED. IN ADDITION TO THE THREE SARG OFFICIALS WE HAVE SUG-
GESTED, COURTESY-TYPE CALLS COULD BE PAID ON MINISTER
OF FINANCE AND GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK OF SYRIA IF PARTY
WISHES.

C. REMOVE RESTRICTED CHANNEL CAPTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
TO FACILITATE POST HANDLING OF VISIT.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMISTS, VISITS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC02744
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760171-0843
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760595/aaaaddeu.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS <MCM 20040719 CORRECTION>; STADIS, EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 104774
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <20 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> MCM 20040719
Subject: VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST OF OMB DIRECTOR AND PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC ADVISER
TAGS: ECON, XF, (LYNN, JAMES T)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006